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ABSTRACT

The current conceptualization of what is appropriate in early childhood education is overly narrow in its interpretation of the role of the teacher, and with respect to variations in cultural and developmental diversity. Based on this observation, this book discusses various issues surrounding diversity, inclusion, and appropriate early educational practices. Following an introduction on the ethics of inclusion, the chapters are: (1) "The Politics of Developmentally Appropriate Practice: Exploring Issues of Culture, Class, and Curriculum" (Sally Lubeck); (2) "Inclusive Policy, Practice, and Theory for Young Children with Developmental Differences" (Bruce L. Mallory); (3) "Culture, Child Development, and Developmentally Appropriate Practices: Teachers as Collaborative Researchers" (Rebecca S. New); (4) "Research in Parent-Child Interaction: Guidance to Developmentally Appropriate Practice for Young Children with Disabilities" (Jeanette A. McCollum and Helen Bair); (5) "Expanding the Perceptions of Developmentally Appropriate Practice: Changing Theoretical Perspectives" (Barbara L. Ludlow and Terry R. Berkeley); (6) "Understanding Development in a Cultural Context: The Challenge for Teachers" (Barbara T. Bowman and Frances M. Stott); (7) "The Movement of African-American Children through Sociocultural Contexts: A Case of Conflict Resolution" (Carol Brunson Phillips); (8) Developmentally Appropriate Practice and Cultural Values: A Case in Point" (Leslie R. Williams); (9) "Parents, Pluralism, and the NAEYC Statement on Developmentally Appropriate Practice" (Douglas R. Powell); (10) "Blending Developmentally Appropriate Practices and Early Childhood Special Education: Redefining Best Practice to Meet the Needs of All Children" (Jane B. Atwater and others); (11) "Designing Meaningful Measurements for Early Childhood" (Samuel J. Meisels); (12) "Teacher Perspectives on the Strengths and Achievements of Young Children: Relationship to Ethnicity, Language, Gender, and Class" (Marianne N. Bloch and others); and (13) "Language and Diversity in Early Childhood: Whose Voices Are Appropriate?" (Celia Genishi and others). (MDM)